

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2663  
PATENT  
Application # 09/473,953  
Attorney Docket # 113523 (1014-086)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s) : AFFERTON, Thomas S.  
Application # : 09/473,953  
Confirmation # : 1668  
Filed : 29 December 1999  
Application Title : FAMILY RING PROTECTION TECHNIQUE  
Art Unit # : 2663  
Latest Examiner : GEORGE; Keith M.

MAR 04 2005

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## REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

SIR:

In reply to the Office Action mailed on 5 January 2005, the three month shortened statutory period for responding to which expires on 5 April 2005, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted:

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